

HOPE Round Up

April 2023

News from HOPE Services

Seeing Potential ~ Inspiring Opportunities



Villages Proclaim March Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month



Pictured is Council members from Malinta: Donnie, Emilio, Deena, Mayor Curt Badgley, Council member Melanie and Charolette with her parents Nick and Hailey.



Pictured is Alex with Holgate Mayor Elva Wyandt, council member Brenda, back is his mother Susan and council members Nick, Chris and Jamie.



Pictured is Amanda presenting the proclamation to Deshler Mayor Steve Gibson.

Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month Proclamation

Whereas: HOPE Services, as Henry County's Board of Developmental Disabilities, has served citizens with developmental disabilities for over 50 years; and

Whereas: Developmental disabilities are conditions which affect millions of Americans and their families; and

Whereas: We recognize that HOPE Services serves approximately 400 Henry County citizens with disabilities; and

Whereas: Individuals with developmental disabilities, their families, friends, neighbors and co-workers encourage everyone to focus on the abilities of all people;

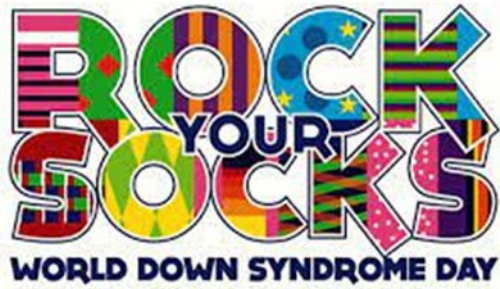
Whereas: The most effective way to increase this awareness is through everyone's active participation in community activities and the openness to learn and acknowledge each individual's contribution;

Whereas: We encourage all citizens to support opportunities for people with disabilities that include full access to education, housing, employment and recreational activities;

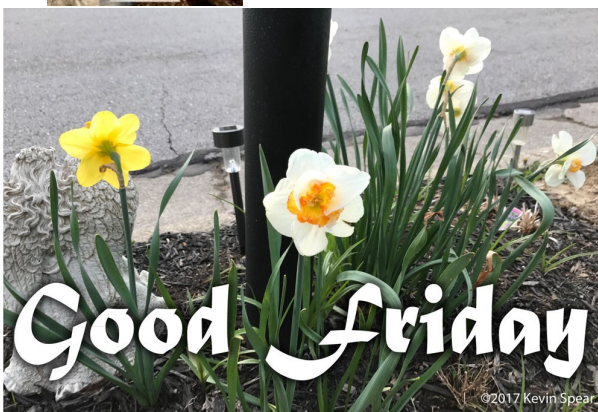
Now, therefore: I, Steve Gibson, Mayor of the Village of Deshler, do hereby proclaim

March 2023 as Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month

And recognize that our communities are stronger when everyone participates. Take time to get to know someone with a disability, recognize ability at work, see what he or she has to offer and give full support toward enabling people with developmental disabilities to live productive lives and achieve their potential.



On March 21st staff along with community members showed support and awareness for World Down Syndrome Day by rocking brightly colored, crazy, or mismatched socks. Check out some of the pictures we received in support of Down Syndrome Day. Thank you to everyone that participated!

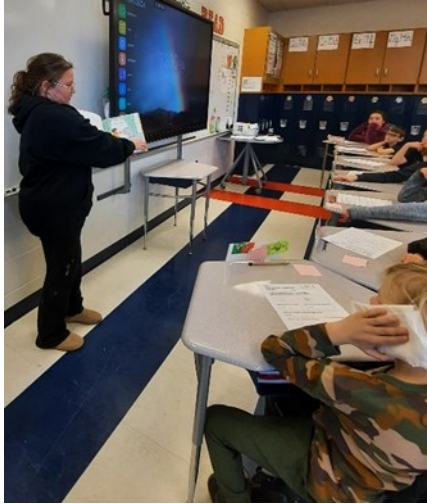


The next board meeting is April 19th at 4:00pm at 135 East Maumee Ave.

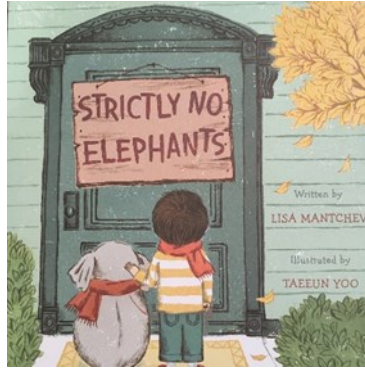
The office will be closing at 12:00pm on Friday April 7th due to Good Friday.



Community Awareness



In observation of Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month, several individuals read the book titled *Strictly No Elephants* to the third-grade classrooms at each of the school districts in Henry County. A copy of the book was donated to each classroom. Bookmarkers were also donated to grades K – 4. A HUGE thank you to Lydia Kuehner, Jessica Clapp, Christina Clark, and Lydia Knepper for being our readers!



Benefits of Reading to Children

Improved language skills

Preparation for academic success

Developing a special bond with your child

Increased concentration and discipline

Improved imagination and creativity

Cultivating lifelong love of reading

Kelly's Column



March was a fun month in Henry County to celebrate and educate our community about DD awareness. We focused on several ways to highlight that "Inclusion is in everyone's abilities". We purchased four billboards throughout the community to recognizing some of our local celebrities, decorated the Chamber of Commerce window and volunteers read a book to area third grade classrooms.

We'd like to thank the Henry County Commissioners who proclaimed March as DD Awareness month. Several members of the community witnessed the commissioners sign and read the proclamation in open session. The support we receive from the entire community is very appreciated!

The construction project at HOPE Services is very close to completion. Everyone has been extremely flexible with finding workspace, but we look forward to everyone being together and working in the same building soon.

Finally, I'd like to welcome Tim Davis as our newest board member. Mr. Davis brings over 21 years of experience in the field. He also has a tremendous amount of expertise working with multi-system youth. He will be a great addition to the board!

Sincerely,

Kelly Aldrich

Welcome

We would like to welcome Tim Davis as our newest Board Member!

Tim has worked in the DD field for 21 years and brings a lot of resources to our Board. Tim and his family live in Liberty Center and he also coaches the Liberty Center Lady Tigers basketball team!

Welcome, Tim! We think you'll be a great addition to our Board!





Meet the Andonians!

Samantha and Nathan have a young family of 4 children. Bristol (who is now 4 months old), was born with a diagnosis of Down Syndrome. Samantha's mother encouraged her to make a call to Early Intervention to begin services. The family also noticed that Evelyn (age 2) was not using as many words as her twin brother and was more difficult to understand so Samantha had the HOPE Early Intervention team also take a look at Evelyn's skills.

Both girls now receive Early Intervention. Samantha notes that since they began services just a couple of months ago, Bristol is now stronger and holds her head up better. She will sometimes roll and really watches her family as they move about the house. Evelyn is using more words and her family can understand her easier.

Samantha notes that "It is ok to ask for some extra help for kids. It's nice to have someone to talk to about your concerns and to celebrate what your child learns."

The Andonians like to go for walks, to be outside, to read books, and to visit their extended family.

The Early Intervention team is thankful that the Andonians made a phone call and allow Early Intervention to team with them.

Early Intervention Contact

If you have concerns with your infant or toddler or for more information about our Early Intervention Services, contact:

Kristie Humbert

Early Intervention Director

☎ 419-599-2892



Special Olympics



March always starts with a roar for us. The first weekend of March is the State of Ohio Indoor Winter Games. It's currently held at Bowling Green State University. We started the weekend at the Athlete parade and dance held at the Stroh Center. This year at State Winter Games we had our Competitive Cheer Squad, D5 Mens Basketball team, and our Swimming team representing Henry County.



The Competitive Cheer squad placed 2nd in their division at the cheer competition.



The Mens D5 team went into Winter Games undefeated. They had a close loss on their first game in the semi-finals. They lost 46-47. They ended their season placing 3rd in the State's D5 division of Men's basketball.



The Swim team brought home medals also. Newest member Jaeson Donnett earned 3rd place in both the 25 backstroke and 25 freestyle for his division. Ryan Moore earned 1st in his 25 freestyle and 3rd in 50 freestyle.





It was a busy and fun weekend at indoor winter games. On Saturday several of our athletes were able to take part in the Healthy Athletes program. There were several stations to encourage good physical and mental health.

April Starts the busy spring/summer sports season. Practices for spring sports started the middle of March. This year we have athletes participating in golf, track & field, cycling, powerlifting, competitive cheerleading, bocce, esports, and volleyball.



HENRY COUNTY SPECIAL OLYMPICS VOLLEYBALL HOME GAMES



5/10 HC vs. Sandusky Cty Raptors
 5/17 HC vs Wood Cty Wildcats
 5/24 HC vs. Lucas Cty Lightning
 6/3 HC vs. Wyandot County Special Olympics - Modified
 6/6 HC vs Fulton Cty Jaguars

ALL GAMES ARE HELD AT THE FILLING HOME GYM - SR 108, NAPOLEON
 NO CHARGE SNACK STAND AVAILABLE

We will have several home volleyball games that the community can come out and cheer on our Cougars.

If you still would like to sign up for spring sports, let Zach or Renita know as soon as possible so you can get schedules and start practices. Regionals games will be here before we know it.

We wish all a very Happy Spring. And as always wish you to keep living your best life!

Coach Zach and Coach Renita

Voices Of HOPE

The Voices of HOPE group met on March 28th. Joe Kuehner talked to everyone about internet safety and scams. The group had many questions. Thank-you Joe for your knowledge and time.



The VOICES OF HOPE will be touring the Smart House in Findlay on April 24th at 6:00pm we will meet at 4:45pm at HOPE Services. Call Tiffany Swihart if you are interested.

Voices of HOPE Contact

If you are interested in more information about the Voices of HOPE group, contact:

Tiffany Swihart

☎ 419-599-2892

Listen to WNDH 103.1 every Thursday at 12:20 p.m. for more information about HOPE Services.

We Are Celebrating

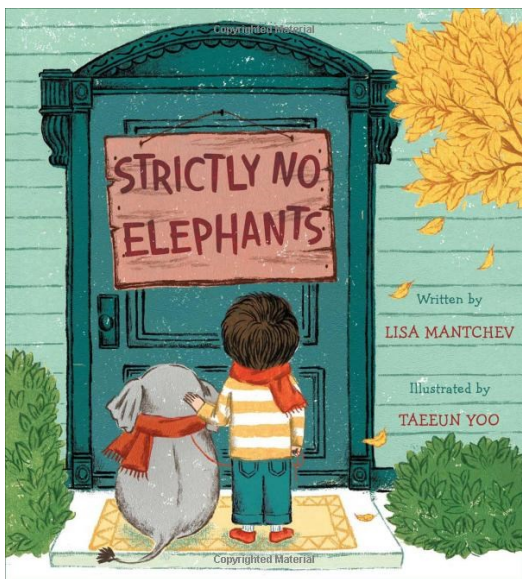
Congratulations to everyone who is celebrating a birthday in April

Christopher Hanson
Jennifer Godeke
Amanda Fahrer
Samantha Phillips
Christopher Elder
Nola Hoskins
Debra Thome
Victoria Michael



Work anniversaries:

Conner Hockenberry - 1 year at Walmart
Zachary Wendt - 1 year at Pizza Hut
Brandon Gomez - 1 year at Ollie's
Cody Steen - 2 years at Walmart
Juan Delgado - 4 years at McDonald's
Marco Delgado - 4 years at Bil-Jax
Jennifer Jenkins - 5 years at Sanoh
John Stout - 13 years at Walmart
Blake Stambaugh - 13 years at HOPE Services
Carrie Fuller - 14 years at All God's Children Daycare
Jennifer Cordes - 26 years at Northwest State Community College



To celebrate March as Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month, several self-advocates had the opportunity to travel to the elementary schools in Henry county to read to the third graders. The book, *Strictly No Elephants*, provides a message of inclusion and helping others. It was an opportunity for the individuals we serve to interact and spend time with the third-grade children. Shown here is Christina Clark reading to Mrs. Eberle’s class at Napoleon Elementary. Christina graduated from Penta County Vocational School in 1999 and moved to Henry county in 2008. She has held many types of jobs in her career, but in 2018, Christina starting working at HOPE Services as the morning receptionist. She is also an artist at Soaring Arts Studio in Napoleon. In her free time, she enjoys going out to eat, going to garage sales, shopping, and you will often see her riding her bike around town. Christina has flourished since moving to Henry county and we are so happy that she is part of the HOPE Services family!

Until we meet again

We think about you always,
we talk about you still,
you have never been forgotten,
and you never will.
We hold you close within our hearts
and there you will remain,
to walk and guide us through our lives,
until we meet again.

Until we meet again.....

*We would like to take this time to
Remember:*

*Irma Tovar
Jean Cordes*

With heartfelt sympathy,

*Your friends from the Henry
County Board of DD*

HOSTED BY: HENRY COUNTY ABILITIES RESOURCE COUNCIL

H.A.R.C. PRESENTS "HENRY COUNTY HAS TALENT" TALENT SHOW

WHEN: SUNDAY, APRIL 16TH 2023
WHERE: SHADY BROOK HITCHING POST
15374 COUNTY RD T - NAPOLEON WHO: ALL
AGES, ALL ABILITIES!

**\$10 REGISTRATION FEE FOR
PERFORMERS**

**YOU DON'T HAVE TO LIVE IN HENRY
COUNTY TO PARTICIPATE!
LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE**

**DOORS OPEN AT 4:00PM
SHOW STARTS AT 4:30PM
TICKETS AT THE DOOR:
ADULTS \$15
12 YRS AND UNDER \$7**



SCAN TO REGISTER HERE (\$10) ----- PAY HERE

CONTACT INFO: KRISTINE DICK (503)307-6806
RANDY BARNES (419)591-6198
FACEBOOK MESSENGER: HARC, INC.



Active Day of Defiance

Active Day of
Defiance re-
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Sauder's Man-
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and were able
to see what
they do.





APRIL IS NATIONAL AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER
is a range of conditions affecting social skills, repetitive behaviors, speech, and nonverbal communication.

WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY IS April 2nd

APRIL IS NATIONAL AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH,
with celebrations to understand this disorder. Here are some facts to learn what autism is and how you can help those who have it.

AWARENESS

- Most obvious signs of autism appear between two and three years old.
- Children may fail to respond to their name or have a reduced interest in people.
- Around one third of people with autism stay nonverbal their whole life.
- Seizures, ADHD, and anxiety frequently accompany autism.



ACTION

- Developmental delay screenings should occur at nine months.
- Autism Spectrum Disorder screenings should be at 18 months.
- Child psychologists and neurologists can help detect autism in your child.

INCLUSION & ACCEPTANCE

- Children with Autism don't get the same sense of inclusion in schools as other children, making them feel excluded and alienated.
- Adults with autism often have trouble getting a job.
- Social inclusion is having access to education, health care, and services.
- The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities states those with autism have the right to be included in their community.



Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder

ADHD is a neurodevelopmental disorder, described as a “persistent” or ongoing pattern of inattention and or hyperactivity-impulsivity that gets in the way of development or daily life

ADHD can present itself 3 ways:

- *inattentive
- *Hyperactive-impulsive
- *Combined inattentive and hyperactive-impulsive

The Diagnostical and Statistical Manual of mental disorders (5th edition), published by the American Psychiatric Association is the guide that lays out the criteria to be used by doctors, mental health professionals and when diagnosing ADHD.

Inattentive

- *fails to give attention to details and makes mistakes
- *struggles to follow through
- *avoids or dislikes tasks requiring mental effort
- *is easily distracted

Hyperactive

- *fidgets with hands or feet or squirms in a chair
- *extreme restlessness
- *talks excessively
- *Difficulty waiting

-submitted by Stephanie Jones

Contact Us

www.henrydd.org

Administration Office	419-599-2892
Superintendent	419-599-2892
Early Intervention and	
Employment Services	419-599-2892
Family Support Services	419-599-2892
Transportation	419-592-8726
Special Olympics	419-260-2176
HARC Recreation	419-591-6798
Volunteer Opportunities	419-599-2892

Seeing Potential – Inspiring Opportunities



Our Mission

HOPE Services is committed to creatively working in partnership with eligible individuals and their families to discover, pursue and achieve what is important to them.

HOPE Services does not discriminate in provision of services or employment because of disability, race, color, creed, national origin, sex or age.

Napoleon, OH 43545

135 E. Maumee

